

REMARKS

The present invention relates to isolated marrow stromal cells ("MSCs") for use in treatment of a central nervous system ("CNS") disease, disorder or condition in a patient. The invention includes methods directing the *in vivo* differentiation of isolated marrow stromal cells in the CNS of a human patient. Moreover, the stromal cells may be optionally cultured *in vitro* and/or may be genetically engineered to produce therapeutic compounds, and/or may be pre-differentiated prior to administration into the CNS.

The above-captioned application was filed as a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/028,395. By way of Preliminary Amendment filed concomitantly with the instant application on June 27, 2003, original claims 19-20 were canceled and claim 2 was amended to recite syngeneic.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-18 following entry of the present Amendment are in condition for allowance. In view of the election of Group I, claims 1-8 and 16-18 in response to the Restriction Requirement, allowance of claims 1-8 and 16-18 is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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